

مركزنا من الأمل

In today's Jordan Times... RSS to help out in solar heaters to Nigeria: Page 2

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومياً سياسية تحت إشراف المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Today's Weather

It will be fair, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Table with 3 columns: Location, Overnight, Daytime. Locations include Amman, Aqaba, Irbid, Jordan Valley.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27, Aqaba 34. Humidity readings: Amman 45 per cent, Aqaba 41 per cent. Sunset tonight: 6:01 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 5:11 a.m.

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AMMAN, SUNDAY AUGUST 30, 1981 — SHAWWAL 30, 1401

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Arab handball tournament concludes

Aug. 29 (Petra) — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, participated in the final match of the Arab handball tournament which was held at the University of Jordan.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan confers with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, to the Prince's left, on Saturday in the presence of French Ambassador Claude Harel (far left), Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem (far right) and Court Minister Amer Khammash. (Staff photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

Cheysson: Palestinian rights lead to peace in Middle East.

AMMAN, Aug. 29 (Agencies) — There will be no peace in the Middle East unless the Palestinians are given the right of self-determination, French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson said today.

In an interview with the Jordan news agency Petra, he said: "No peace can be achieved unless the basic principles contained in the (1980 European Common Market) Venice summit statement, first and foremost the right of self-determination of peoples, are carried out."

reference between the North and South which will be held in Mexico later this year. On the French stand vis-a-vis the Camp David agreements Mr. Cheysson said his government does not see eye-to-eye with the Egyptian, American and Israeli views.

On Franco-Iraqi cooperation in nuclear technology, Mr. Cheysson said that France will continue to cooperate with Iraq, and will help that country in developing its nuclear capabilities for peaceful purposes.

Electric Co. goes to USSR

Aug. 29 (Petra) — Negotiations between the Jordanian electricity company led by Mr. Ahmad Arafat, director of the company, left for the Soviet Union today on a visit.

Vienna synagogue attacked, 2 killed, 17 others injured

VIENNA, Aug. 29 (Agencies) — Two people were killed and 17 others injured today in a terrorist attack on a downtown Vienna synagogue where some 200 people were preparing to leave a Bar Mitzvah celebration, officials said.

Two automatic weapons and one handgrenade were found at the scene, police said. "According to the latest reports, only two people were involved after all," one police official said in a radio interview.

Bomb blast kills one at Beirut office of Iranian TV and radio

BEIRUT, Aug. 29 (Agencies) — A powerful bomb exploded at the front door of the Iranian radio and television office this morning, killing a janitor four floors below and injuring three men in the hotel next door.

The official Pars news agency said an Iranian air force Boeing 707, used by its pilot for a defection flight to Egypt in July, returned to Tehran yesterday. Four members of the original crew and two officers dispatched from Iran to arrange its release from Egyptian authorities were on board.

Mujahedeen strike in Iran

Meanwhile, a mosque Friday prayer leader was machine-gunned to death by Mujahedeen-Khalq guerrillas in the town of Kuchestan in the northern Iranian province of Mazandaran last night, Tehran Radio reported today.

Iranians clash in N. Delhi

In New Delhi, more than a dozen Iranian students were injured in a clash here today between supporters and opponents of Iranian revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini, police said.

William Thomas at 89

NEW YORK, Aug. 29 — Lowell Thomas, who for decades America's own broadcaster, died here today. He was 89.

Cheysson-Arafat meeting seems unlikely as haggle over 'who goes where' flares

BEIRUT, Aug. 29 (A.P.) — A meeting between French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat is unlikely due to a disagreement over and appropriate meeting place according to Western diplomatic sources here.

There was wide speculation in both the French and Lebanese press that Mr. Cheysson would meet with Mr. Arafat but according to Palestinian sources the PLO chairman is insisting that "the meeting should be in Arafat's house or not at all."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

W. Bank Muslims protest against digs under Al Aqsa

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 29 (Agencies) — Archaeologists, already in trouble with orthodox Jews for their diggings under Old Jerusalem, have now run afoul of Muslims after the discovery of a tunnel under the Al Aqsa Mosque.

Lebanon mediation team prepares for FM's conference

BEIRUT, Aug. 29 (R) — Members of the Arab Follow-up Committee trying to end the Lebanese conflict today held the latest in a series of preparatory meetings for a foreign ministers' conference next month.

New U.S. envoy to S. Arabia presents credentials

BEIRUT, Aug. 29 (A.P.) — The new U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Richard William Murphy, presented his credentials to King Khalid in the royal palace at the summer capital of Taif and then held talks with Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

UAE-Soviet diplomatic ties considered too premature

KUWAIT, Aug. 29 (A.P.) — High-level talks held in Moscow last week have failed to evolve agreement on establishing diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the newspaper Al Rai Al Aam reported today.

Qadhafi urges transfer of U.N., withdrawal of U.S. veto power

BEIRUT, Aug. 29 (R) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has called for the United States to be deprived of its right of veto in the United Nations Security Council, and eventually, expelled from the world body.

'Let's clean the region of imperialists'

"We must prevent the establishment of new bases in Egypt, Sudan and Somalia, and also cleanse the Mediterranean and Indian Oceans of fleets of the imperialist forces," Col. Qadhafi said.



Standard of art education in the schools should be raised by giving children a fundamental framework on which to build their appreciation and involvement, Mrs. Durra says.

Tackling the basics to promote art

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

MAN - Art in Jordan, although growing daily, still has a long way to go. The artists' style and activity is as yet directionless and channelled; and this in turn leads to a bewildering array of styles and exhibitions which confuse the interested public. Some people feel that the best way to help artists in their search for identity is by constant praise and encouragement. Others think differently. One of these who has some special ideas is Gabriella Durra.

Durra, along with her husband, Director General of the Department of Culture and Arts, have always been very much an integral part of the Jordanian art movement. Mr. Durra was one of the best pioneering artists in the early days of the

movement, who, after his return from further artistic studies in Italy, continued to help the movement. After teaching, for a number of years, Mr. Durra was instrumental in establishing a fine arts department at the then Centre for Music. He also held important government positions.

Mrs. Durra's involvement in art in the country, particularly in recent years, has been no less intense. With her background of three years in an Italian art school and 18 years with Mr. Durra (14 of which have been spent here in Jordan), Mrs. Durra took over the running of the Alia Art Gallery two years ago. Although she came under criticism in her determination to bring European art to Amman, she also did a lot of good - the exhibition of the work of British abstract artist Brian Fielding left a lasting impression. Now retired from this position, Mrs. Durra is prepared to voice her views and criticism of art in Jordan.

Mrs. Durra feels that no real

progress in art in this country can be achieved until the basics are tackled - i.e. the amount and standard of art education in elementary schools is improved. Mrs. Durra feels that there is a lack of specialised art teachers and a lack of time allotted to the subject.

An ideal start would be to give children a good grounding and a fundamental framework on which to build their appreciation and involvement in art. At present because of a lack of this basic art education and because art - particularly representational art - is not a living part of their tradition, the Jordanian public is at a double disadvantage: people have very little to draw upon to help them form their taste, ideas and opinions about art. "The taste of the Jordanian public is very fragile and should be treated with care as it can easily be spoiled," explained Mrs. Durra. "Spoiled to the extent that the public becomes so confused that they do not know what is really valid art or not. They have lost all measures and guidelines to

aid their judgement; every time a Jordanian looks back for help into his own traditions, he realises that the threads that link him to his past are so remote and tenuous they can offer little assistance, since his tradition represents a different era and spirit in which painting had no part. So he turns to the West - to find himself more lost than ever, as the West is also passing through an age of anarchy and chaos."

So until the effects of a thorough and early artistic education become realised, the Jordanian public must be aided in their response to art by other means. One way in which that could be achieved, according to Mrs. Durra, would be the formation of a "high national committee" which would be composed of impartial, knowledgeable, very qualified individuals of any nationality and background, who are also authorities on Jordanian art. This committee would supervise the various activities and have the power to set really high standards in the field of visual arts.

"Of course this does not mean that such a committee should create a tyranny or become a bureaucratic establishment. On the contrary, this committee would help in unifying the different organs that now deal with the promotion of arts and artists in this country. This would reduce the number of these bodies - which are too numerous for the size of a real artistic movement in Jordan - and eradicate the contradictions that exist between them," Mrs. Durra clarified.

The committee would also eradicate had exhibitions and the out-of-proportion coverage of exhibitions in the local press and television, which Mrs. Durra feels should not be permitted as this serve only to add to the confusion. "I want to stress the point that the audience's reaction is very important in guiding the artist," Mrs. Durra said. "Therefore the audience must be educated and his eyes must be trained in order for him to pick up the valid work."

That the public is unable to do that now is shown by the fact that they are "making a big point of trying to look for a folk art - i.e. art found in souvenir shops which ultimately forces the artists to produce substandard graphics".

The committee Mrs. Durra hopes advocates, would be one way maintaining a good standard of art until the public can do it for themselves.

Another reason why the public has difficulty in picking out true art is, as Mrs. Durra puts it, "the nonexistent art critic." The art critics here tend only to praise what the artists are doing, under the justification of encouragement, and their views depend on scattered information from the artists themselves. Ultimately, this serves no constructive purpose. What Mrs. Durra finds hard to understand is why there is a lack of art critics in this country. "Normally most of the great art critics of the world were originally writers or poets who later specialised in the study of art. This, strangely enough, did

not happen here. We see many Arab writers talking with great understanding and knowledge about Hemingway, Joyce, Pound and Eliot, but they are unable to talk in the same way about artists of a similar calibre, like Bacon, Dali and Picasso, who after all were only expressing the same thoughts but in a different way."

The only explanation Mrs. Durra can offer is that these intellectuals are not taking art seriously and in doing so they pay very little attention to it, "as if art does not belong to the world of culture and intellect at all. This particular phenomenon has no explanation whatsoever and it seems as if it were restricted to Jordan as there is no parallel to it in all modern society."

Perhaps when art is taken seriously in this country, the solutions to all present problems will fall into place. And art must be taken seriously for, as Mrs. Durra says, "art is not a luxury, but a deep human necessity."

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ECONOMY

In wake of price cut by Nigeria

Who will bell the cat in oil price-cut game

BAHRAIN, Aug. 29 (R) — Gulf OPEC oil exporters other than Saudi Arabia are under growing pressure to follow Nigeria and cut prices in the present world glut but each is waiting for someone else to move first, Gulf oil analysts said.

A cut by either the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwait, Qatar or Iraq would trigger a round of price reductions by others, they forecast.

Pressure has increased since Nigeria, hardest hit by the glut among the 13 OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) members, announced a price reduction on Wednesday, to be effected by offering all buyers a four-dollar discount on its above-average price of \$40 a barrel.

Two other North African countries, Libya and Algeria, which also charge \$40 have begun trying to barter crude oil, which London analysts said may offer scope for hidden discounts.

The smaller Gulf countries also face problems selling their crudes which are aligned on base prices of \$35 or \$36 a barrel in competition with a flood of Saudi Arabian oil at \$32 a barrel, OPEC's cheapest.

Oil sources in Loodoo said this week Japanese refiners stopped taking deliveries from Iran this month and have reduced volumes shipped from Kuwait, Qatar and non-OPEC Oman.

Some Gulf analysts said oil ministries were watching the United Arab Emirates (UAE) with particular interest, speculating it might be the first to cut prices. It charges \$36.56 for its main Abu Dhabi crude.

UAE Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba strongly supported Saudi Arabia at an OPEC meeting in Geneva last week in saying that the average price of OPEC oil should fall.

The analysts said remarks by Dr. Oteiba to reporters at the meeting that Abu Dhabi was

aligning its prices on the \$32 level used by Saudi Arabia might give a clue to future UAE actions.

The UAE, the analysts calculated, was in fact aligned on a \$35 benchmark.

The analysts speculated that the UAE's traditional closeness to Saudi Arabia in oil policy might be one factor in a price cut.

Kuwait's official spokesman said this week Kuwait would maintain present oil policy. It charges \$35.50 a barrel and has an output ceiling of 1.25 million barrels a day (b/d).

But analysts said actual output, hit by a fire at a major refinery, is probably down around 600,000 b/d, below the level needed to meet requirements for gas produced in association with oil. Kuwait has imported liquefied petroleum gas from Saudi Arabia and Australia to meet domestic and contract obligations, they said.

B.L. loses £190m

LONDON, Aug. 29 (R) — Britain's state-owned motor company B.L. (British Leyland) yesterday announced a pre-tax loss of £190.1 million (\$350 million) in the first half of this year. British Leyland's Chairman Sir Michael Edward said that cars group was recovering as planned.

B.L. lost £138 million (\$250 million) in the same period last year. Yesterday's figures show an improved performance for its cars business, offset by heavy losses for the trucks division.

Sir Michael said the half-year losses were higher than envisaged in the recovery plan submitted to the government earlier this year on the basis of which B.L. received cash aid of £990 million (\$1.83 billion) for 1981-83.

But he added: "We see no need to seek government funds additional to those envisaged in our 1981 plan."

Sir Michael said B.L.'s full-year trading loss was expected to be roughly the same as 1980, when it lost £387 million (\$715 million).

Japan to consider steps to boost home demand

TOKYO, Aug. 29 (R) — The Japanese government, fearing a resurgence of trade friction, is expected to discuss measures next month to boost home demand and stimulate imports, according to sources at the Economic Planning Agency (EPA).

With the powerful economy gaining momentum through increasing exports, there is a growing feeling here, especially in big business, that another bout of trade friction between Japan and its major trading partners is possible.

Cabinet economic ministers will review Japan's economic outlook for the current financial year ending next March at the meeting, probably in the second half of September.

But the sources said there was no urgent need for new measures because domestic prices had stabilised and business conditions had improved slightly since March, when the government introduced an economy-boosting package.

The Japan Foreign Trade Council, organised by major trading houses, yesterday urged the government to act quickly to increase imports of industrial products to head off possible trade friction with the United States and West Europe.

The council proposed to Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki the early restoration of the government's low-interest foreign currency loan system to promote imports of manufactured goods.

It also urged cuts in import tariffs on whisky, biscuits, peanut butter, and plywood and generally higher import quotas, as well as stabilisation of the yen-dollar exchange rate.

In the first seven months of calendar 1981, Japan had a visible trade surplus of \$9.36 billion.

Exports in the seven months were up 24.3 per cent from the same 1980 period, while imports rose only 4.8 per cent. Economic growth in the first quarter was on target for six per cent expansion for the whole year.



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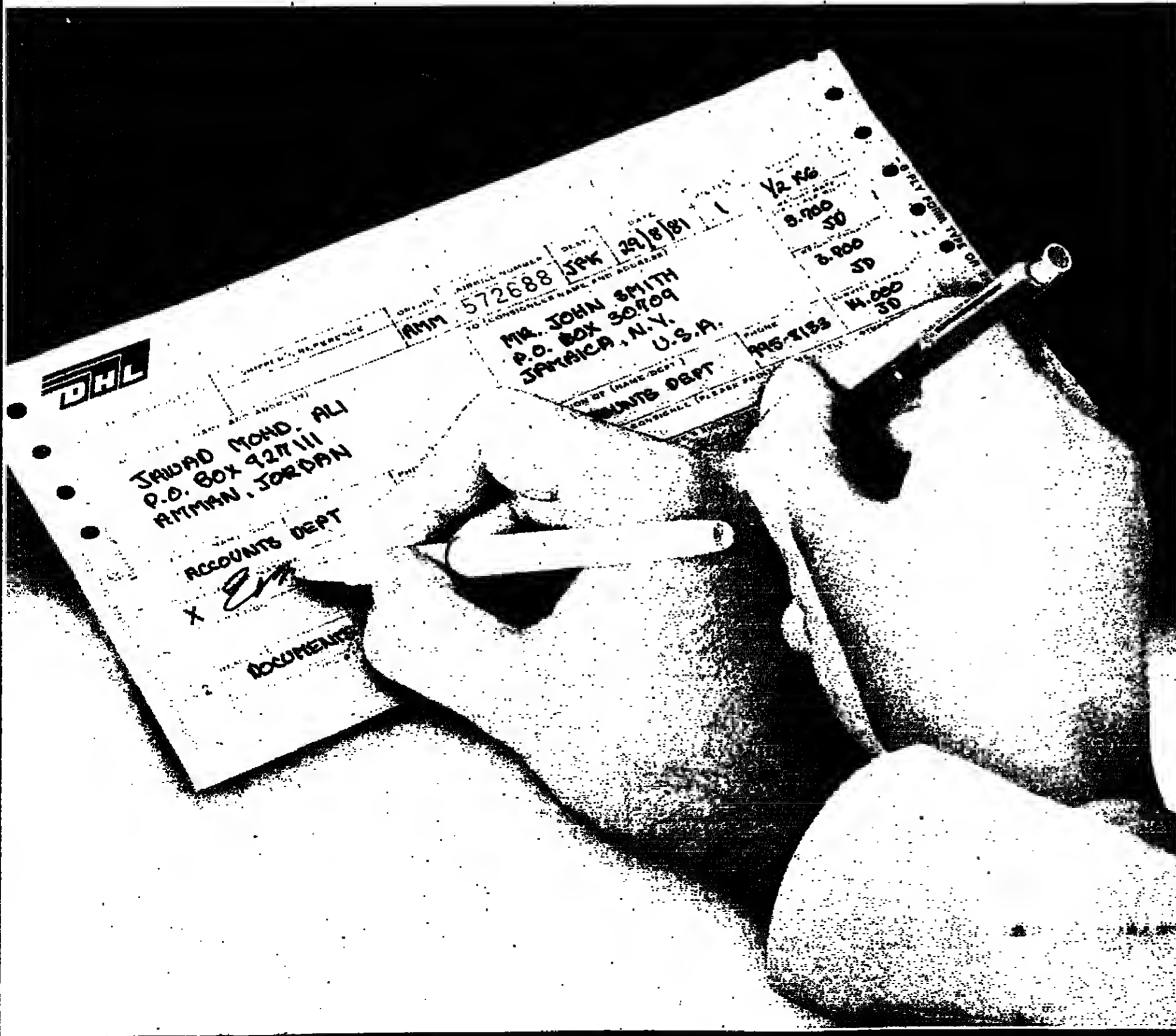
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